



OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
24TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
HAMILTON COUNTY, INDIANA

PRESS RELEASE

HAMILTON COUNTY DEPUTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY RECOGNIZED BY LOCAL VICTIM ORGANIZATION

Friday, August 8, 2014

Prevail, Inc., a local victim-advocacy organization, honored Hamilton County Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Matt Kestian with its *HERO OF THE MONTH* award.

[Prevail](#)'s Hero was started in October 2013 to recognize the valued partners in our community that go above and beyond for the organization's clients and their families. Kestian was chosen by Prevail staff to receive the July 2014 award because of his dedication and passion for the community he serves.

As the deputy prosecutor who specifically tries the sex crimes in Hamilton County, "Matt has made collaboration the cornerstone of his work," says Michelle Corrao, Assistant Director of Prevail.

In addition to his traditional prosecutor roles, Kestian facilitates the multi-disciplinary Sexual Assault Response Team meetings which are designed to review current and closed cases, address issues related to sexual violence impacting our community, create and maintain protocols for a coordinated community response to violence and provide cross education. He makes attending child advocacy center interviews a priority.

Brittany Winebar, Prevail's Youth Program Coordinator, explains that "from an advocacy standpoint, Matt has been key in including victim advocates into the prosecution. He is a great advocate for referring survivors to on-going services and keeping other professional partners informed about the progress of the case."

Kestian's current assignment as the deputy prosecuting attorney designated to handle the County's sex crimes cases began in January 2012. Kestian joined the

Hamilton County Prosecuting Attorney's Office in 2009 following his completion of law school and the bar exam. A graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, Kestian served in the United States Army achieving the rank of Captain and serving on several combat zone assignments over the course of his 5½ years of active duty and a year of reserve mobilization.



L - R: *Brittany Winebar*, Youth Program Coordinator, Prevail, Inc.;
Matt Kestian, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Hamilton Co. Prosecuting Attorney's Office; and
Michelle Corrao, Assistant Director, Prevail, Inc.

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